

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 067311
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:TRBUCKHANAN:GJB
APPROVED BY P:PCHABIB
S/S:R.PREITO

-----270027Z 130011 /61

O 260122Z MAR 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 067311

NODIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 4 LINE 1 OMITTED)
E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CG

SUBJECT: SHABA INVASION: CONSULTATIONS WITH MOBUTU

REFS: A) KINSHASA 2644; B) KINSHASA 2660; C) KINSHASA 2670

1. FOLLOWING CABLE WAS DUE TO BE SENT WHEN WE RECEIVED
YOUR OWN REPORT OF MEETING WITH MOBUTU
(KINSHASA 2742. YOUR HANDLING OF DISCUSSIONS WAS JUST
RIGHT. FOLLOWING WILL AT LEAST GIVE YOU WRITTEN CONFIR-
MATION OF WHAT WE FELT MOBUTU COULD USEFULLY BE TOLD,
INCLUDING SOME DETAILS NOT INCLUDED IN TELECON WITH
BUCHANAN.

2. USG SHARES MOBUTU'S APPRECIATION OF SERIOUSNESS OF EVOLV-
ING SITUATION IN ZAIRE AND ITS BROADER IMPLICATIONS IN
SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 067311

AFRICA. WE WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OUR VIEWS OF WHAT IS
WISE AND POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

3. OUR AIM HAS BEEN TO AVOID UNNECESSARY ESCALATION AND
INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE CONFLICT IN SHABA WITHOUT
ENDANGERING ZAIRIAN TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY.

CRITICISM OF THE ZAIRIAN GOVERNMENT IN THE US BY
PEOPLE KNOWLEDGEABLE ENOUGH TO QUESTION THE EFFICACY
OF THE ZAIRIAN ARMY. REPORT CONTAINED IN KINSHASA 2683
IS NOT ENCOURAGING IN THIS RESPECT AND WE HOPE THAT FAZ
CAN ORGANIZE ITSELF TO MOUNT EFFECTIVE RESISTANCE WHICH

IN TURN WOULD FACILITATE THE PROCESS OF MEDIATION BY AFRICANS.

5. AS YOU CORRECTLY SURMISED THE US COULD NOT FUND, ARM OR OTHERWISE SUPPORT FOREIGN MERCENARIES IN ZAIRE. THE MERCENARY QUESTION HAS BECOME EMOTIONAL ISSUE NOT ONLY IN AFRICA BUT IN US AS WELL. WHILE WE HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT PAST MERCENARY PROCLIVITIES OF KATANGAN GENDARMES OR THEIR SOURCES OF SUPPORT, THE PRESENCE OF MERCENARIES FIGHTING FOR FAZ WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY RISK PROVOKING GREATER CRITICISM HERE AND ELSEWHERE. WHATEVER MOBUTU DECIDES TO DO IN THIS QUESTION YOU SHOULD UNDERSCORE THE LIKELY ADVERSE EFFECT IF HE SHOULD HIRE US CITIZENS, EVEN IF THEY ARE READILY AVAILABLE.

6. WE HAVE SUGGESTED TO AFRICAN STATES (STATE 66446) SYMPATHETIC TO ZAIRE TO BECOME MORE ACTIVE BOTH PRIVATELY AND PUBLICLY IN DISSEMINATING THEIR VIEWS OF SOME OF THE REAL ISSUES WHICH ARE ENCOMPASSED IN THE PRESENT SITUATION. WE SUGGEST THAT ZAIRE DO THE SAME.

7. WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH NIGERIANS AND OTHERS, IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH MOBUTU, TO ACHIEVE AN ACCEPTABLE DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION. IN THIS CONNECTION
SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 067311

WE BELIEVE IT WOULD NOT BE HARMFUL FOR MOBUTU TO MAKE SOME STATESMANLIKE GESTURE TOWARD RECONCILIATION WITH THE KATANGANS SUCH AS PUBLICLY RENEWING EARLIER OFFERS OF AMNESTY OR OF DESIRE REINTEGRATE THEM INTO ZAIRE. SUCH A STEP WOULD BE IN CONTRAST TO SITUATION IN ANGOLA WHERE MPLA HAS NOT RESPONDED TO SUGGESTIONS OF RECONCILIATION OF OPPOSING GROUPS THERE. A PUBLIC STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF MEDIATION AS YOU SUGGEST, WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL.

8. YOU MAY REST ASSURED THAT WE WILL RAISE THIS QUESTION IN MOSCOW AND OTHER CAPITALS AS APPROPRIATE.

9. IN THE MEANTIME WE ARE CONTINUING TO EXAMINE WAYS IN WHICH WE MIGHT BE HELPFUL WITHIN THE CONSTRAINTS IMPOSED BY THE INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC SITUATION AND WITH THE FULL REALIZATION THAT EFFECTIVE RESISTANCE IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE SUCCESS OF DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT EFFORT TO LET AFRICANS MEDIATE AN AFRICAN PROBLEM REPRESENTS ABANDONMENT OF FIELD TO MOSCOW OR HAVANA.

10. YOU MAY INDICATE TO MOBUTU THAT WE WILL DELIVER NON-LETHAL ITEMS IN THE NORMAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE PIPELINE, INCLUDING REPAIR OF C-130 NOSE CONE. NO

DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN, HOWEVER, ON ANY FURTHER USE
OF FMS FUNDS.
VANCE
UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 067311
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011
DRAFTED BY S/S:RPERITO:WES
APPROVED BY S/S:RPERITO
-----260422Z 120632 /61
O 260407Z MAR 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 067311

NODIS
FOR DR. Z. BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOL RPT STATE 067311 ACTION KINSHASA 26 MAR 77 QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 067311

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CG

SUBJECT: SHABA INVASION: CONSULTATIONS WITH MOBUTU

REFS: A) KINSHASA 2644; B) KINSHASA 2660; C) KINSHASA 2670

1. FOLLOWING CABLE WAS DUE TO BE SENT WHEN WE RECEIVED
YOUR OWN REPORT OF MEETING WITH MOBUTU
(KINSHASA 2742. YOUR HANDLING OF DISCUSSIONS WAS JUST
RIGHT. FOLLOWING WILL AT LEAST GIVE YOU WRITTEN CONFIR-
MATION OF WHAT WE FELT MOBUTU COULD USEFULLY BE TOLD,
INCLUDING SOME DETAILS NOT INCLUDED IN TELECON WITH
SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 067311

BUCHANAN.

2. USG SHARES MOBUTU'S APPRECIATION OF SERIOUSNESS OF EVOLV-
ING SITUATION IN ZAIRE AND ITS BROADER IMPLICATIONS IN

AFRICA. WE WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OUR VIEWS OF WHAT IS WISE AND POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

3. OUR AIM HAS BEEN TO AVOID UNNECESSARY ESCALATION AND INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE CONFLICT IN SHABA WITHOUT ENDANGERING ZAIRIAN TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY.

CRITICISM OF THE ZAIRIAN GOVERNMENT IN THE US BY PEOPLE KNOWLEDGEABLE ENOUGH TO QUESTION THE EFFICACY OF THE ZAIRIAN ARMY. REPORT CONTAINED IN KINSHASA 2683 IS NOT ENCOURAGING IN THIS RESPECT AND WE HOPE THAT FAZ CAN ORGANIZE ITSELF TO MOUNT EFFECTIVE RESISTANCE WHICH IN TURN WOULD FACILITATE THE PROCESS OF MEDIATION BY AFRICANS.

5. AS YOU CORRECTLY SURMISED THE US COULD NOT FUND, ARM OR OTHERWISE SUPPORT FOREIGN MERCENARIES IN ZAIRE. THE MERCENARY QUESTION HAS BECOME EMOTIONAL ISSUE NOT ONLY IN AFRICA BUT IN US AS WELL. WHILE WE HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT PAST MERCENARY PROCLIVITIES OF KATANGAN GENDARMES OR THEIR SOURCES OF SUPPORT, THE PRESENCE OF MERCENARIES FIGHTING FOR FAZ WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY RISK PROVOKING GREATER CRITICISM HERE AND ELSEWHERE. WHATEVER MOBUTU DECIDES TO DO IN THIS QUESTION YOU SHOULD UNDERScore THE LIKELY ADVERSE EFFECT IF HE SHOULD HIRE US CITIZENS, EVEN IF THEY ARE READILY AVAILABLE.

6. WE HAVE SUGGESTED TO AFRICAN STATES (STATE 66446) SYMPATHETIC TO ZAIRE TO BECOME MORE ACTIVE BOTH PRIVATELY AND PUBLICLY IN DISSEMINATING THEIR VIEWS OF SOME OF THE REAL ISSUES WHICH ARE ENCOMPASSED IN THE SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 067311

PRESENT SITUATION. WE SUGGEST THAT ZAIRE DO THE SAME.

7. WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH NIGERIANS AND OTHERS, IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH MOBUTU, TO ACHIEVE AN ACCEPTABLE DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION. IN THIS CONNECTION WE BELIEVE IT WOULD NOT BE HARMFUL FOR MOBUTU TO MAKE SOME STATESMANLIKE GESTURE TOWARD RECONCILIATION WITH THE KATANGANS SUCH AS PUBLICLY RENEWING EARLIER OFFERS OF AMNESTY OR OF DESIRE REINTEGRATE THEM INTO ZAIRE. SUCH A STEP WOULD BE IN CONTRAST TO SITUATION IN ANGOLA WHERE MPLA HAS NOT RESPONDED TO SUGGESTIONS OF RECONCILIATION OF OPPOSING GROUPS THERE. A PUBLIC STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF MEDIATION AS YOU SUGGEST, WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL.

8. YOU MAY REST ASSURED THAT WE WILL RAISE THIS QUESTION IN MOSCOW AND OTHER CAPITALS AS APPROPRIATE.

9. IN THE MEANTIME WE ARE CONTINUING TO EXAMINE WAYS

IN WHICH WE MIGHT BE HELPFUL WITHIN THE CONSTRAINTS
IMPOSED BY THE INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC SITUATION AND
WITH THE FULL REALIZATION THAT EFFECTIVE RESISTANCE IS AN
IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE SUCCESS OF
DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM. WE DO NOT
BELIEVE THAT EFFORT TO LET AFRICANS MEDIATE AN AFRICAN
PROBLEM REPRESENTS ABANDONMENT OF FIELD TO MOSCOW OR
HAVANA.

10. YOU MAY INDICATE TO MOBUTU THAT WE WILL DELIVER
NON-LETHAL ITEMS IN THE NORMAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE
PIPELINE, INCLUDING REPAIR OF C-130 NOSE CONE. NO
DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN, HOWEVER, ON ANY FURTHER USE
OF FMS FUNDS.
VANCE

UNQUOTE VANCE
SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 067311

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 22-Sep-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, PROVINCE, SECESSION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, INVASIONS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE067311
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/C:TRBUCKHANAN:GJB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: P840083-0176, N770002-0185
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703111/baaaevnm.tel
Line Count: 240
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d8a501b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: A) KINSHASA 2644; B) KINSHASA 2660; C) KINSHASA 2670
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2965330
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHABA INVASION: CONSULTATIONS WITH MOBUTU
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, MASS, CG, AO, US, (MOBUTU SESE SEKO)
To: KINSHASA NIACT
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d8a501b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009